

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The newspaper/broadcast

cross-ownership cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

The rights of the individual to a broad range of viewpoints supercedes any free speech rights of broadcasters. This simple fact, as voiced by the Supreme Court, should not be ignored. Media are not widget makers. Unlike other industries, the media is essential to the functioning of our society, thus special care in how they operate is critical. media consolidation is anti-democratic.